

Fasthosts Customer Support

cPanel User Guide



This manual covers everything you need to know in order to get started with cPanel and perform day to day administrative tasks.

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Introduction

cPanel is a powerful and intuitive web interface that enables you to provide your customers with an easy way to administer their websites, databases and email addresses.

This guide will cover all the basics needed in order to get starter with cPanel.

Before you begin

Before you begin you will need to make sure that you have the following details at hand:

- A cPanel account provided by your WHM Administrator.
- The login details for cPanel provided by your WHM Administrator.

Using cPanel

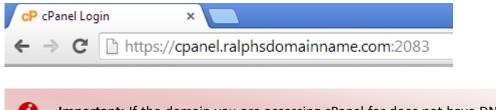
Once you have created your first account in WHM, both your users and you will have access to the cPanel interface for that account.

Logging into cPanel

Step 1

If the domain's DNS is handled within cPanel browse to *cpanel.yourdomainname.com* replacing *yourdomainname.com* with the domain that you want to access the cPanel interface for.





Important: If the domain you are accessing cPanel for does not have DNS hosted on your server, you will need to access cPanel via https://yourserverip:2083 replacing yourserverip with your server's IP address.

Step 2

Enter your username and password in the fields provided and clicks the **Log in** button.

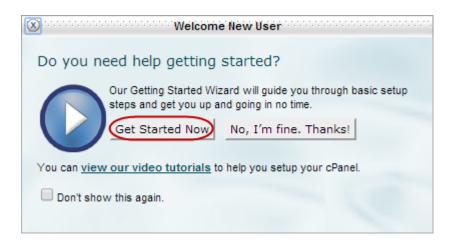


Using the cPanel Getting Started Wizard

Step 1

Upon your first login to cPanel you will be prompted to use the *Getting Started Wizard*. Click the **Get Started Now** button to run through it.





Select Locale

Step 1

The first step of the Wizard will ask you to choose the language for the cPanel interface. If this needs changing, select the correct language from the drop down menu and click **Change**.

Before we begin

In order to get started, please select the language you wish to use for your interface.



Once you have selected the language that you want to use, click the **Continue** button.

Step 2

The next four steps contain introductory information, click the **Next Step** button after reading through each page.

Introduction to Web Hosting

Welcome to your web hosting account for ralphsdomainname.com. This software allows you to manage different aspects of your website, including your files, security, email, web applications, and much more. This Getting Started Wizard will introduce you to some of the concepts behind web hosting and allow you to configure some basic settings for your website so that you can start bringing traffic (visitors) to your site. At any time, you can use the jump menu to skip ahead to the next section.





Web Disk Accounts

After reading through the introductory information you will find a step containing information regarding *Web Disk Accounts*. These allow you to drag and drop files to your hosting account from your local computer. If you are not intending to use this feature or you are not running Windows Vista, Windows 7 or Windows 8, click the **Disable Digest Authentication** button. Otherwise click **Skip this step**.



The Web Disk allows you to easily drag and drop files to your hosting account. Once your Web Disk is configured on your local (home) computer, you can then drag and drop files to it, edit files, or view file information, just as you can on your local (home) computer.

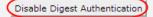
Web Disks Subdomains are relative to your account's home directory. The picon signifies your home directory which is: "/home/toolbum".

Configure your main Web Disk account.

This account provides access to your entire web hosting account. Click on "Access Web Disk" to set up the Web Disk on your computer.

Digest Authentication for Windows®

To use Windows Vista®, Windows® 7 or Windows® 8 to access your Web Disk, please enable Digest Authentication. If you do not use one of these systems, you may disable Digest Authentication.





New Email Account Setup

Step 1

Next you will need to set up an initial email account. Fill out the fields as follows:

- Email Enter the prefix of the email address.
- Password Enter a password or click the Password Generator button.
- Password (again) Re-enter your password unless you have used the Password Generator.
- Mailbox Quota Enter your mailbox storage limit in MB, or enter 0 for unlimited.

Once finished click the Create button.





You will need to create an email account at your domain so that you can receive email from customers or other visitors to your domain. You can use the **Email Accounts** function on the main page of your interface to add more email accounts later.



Skip this step

Step 2

If you want to use the email address you have with an email client click the **Yes** button and then click **Next Step**.





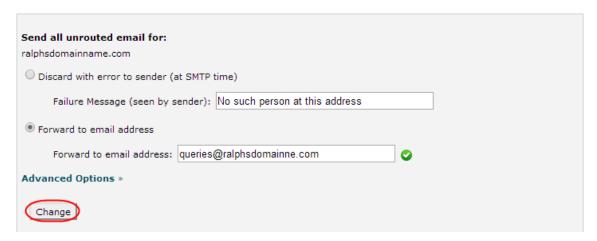
Set Default Address

The next step lets you chose what to do with mail that comes into an address that does not exist on the domain.

- Discard with error to sender (at SMTP time) Select if you want the mail to be discarded.
 - Failure Message (seen by sender) You can specify a custom message that will be sent back to the sender when they have attempted to contact an invalid email address.



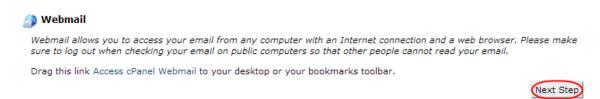
 Forward to email address – Select this if you want to forward any email sent to a nonexistent account to another address. Enter the email address you want mail to be forwarded to in the field provided.



Once finished, click Change. A confirmation screen will appear, click Next Step.

Webmail

The next step contains a link to the Webmail client for cPanel. Bookmark this link for future use and click **Next Step**.



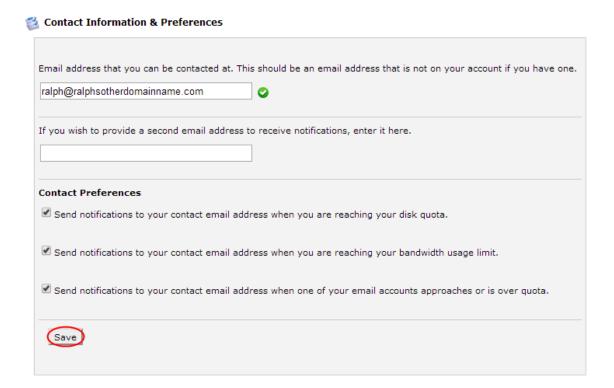
Contact Information & Preferences

In the *Contact Information & Preferences* section you can enter an email address that you can be contacted at. Enter an email address in the field provided and select any of the following options:

- Send notification to your contact email address when you are reaching your disk quota.
- Send notifications to your contact email address when you are reaching your bandwidth usage limit.
- Send notifications to your contact email address when one of your email account approaches or is over quota.



Once done click Save.



A confirmation screen will appear, review the settings made and click **Next Step**.

Change Style

In the *Change Style* section you can choose from a number of themes. Select one of these or scroll to the bottom of the page and select **Skip this step**.









Switch style to "black_ice".

A confirmation screen will appear, review your settings and click **Next Step**.

Manage SSH Keys

The *Manage SSH Keys* section will ask you to either *Generate a new Key* or *Import Key*. The key is a private key that will allow your local machine to connect to your sever over SSH or SFTP.

If you already have a key that you use click **Import Key**. Otherwise click **Generate a new Key**.



This is the end of the cPanel Getting Started Wizard, click the **home** icon in the top left to return to the cPanel interface.

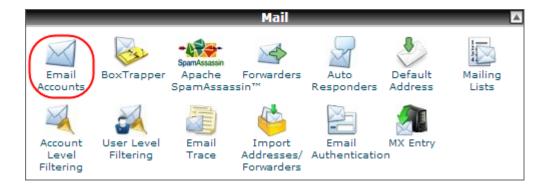




Adding a new mailbox to a domain

Step 1

Click on the **Email Accounts** icon found in the *Mail* section.



Step 2

Fill out the mailbox details in the fields provided.

- Email: Enter the prefix for the new mailbox address.
- Password: Enter a password for the new mailbox.
- Password(again): Enter the password again.
- Mailbox Quota: Enter an amount in MB to limit the mailbox size for or select *Unlimited*.





Once done click **Create Account** your mailbox will now be created.



Quick tip: You can also use the **Password Generator** button to get cPanel to generate a strong password for you.

Installing Software

You can install software such as WordPress to cPanel as long as your WHM administrator has enabled it for you.

Step 1

Log in to cPanel, scroll down to the Software/Services section and click the Site Software icon.



Step 2

Click the link for the software you want to install, in this example *WordPress* has been selected.



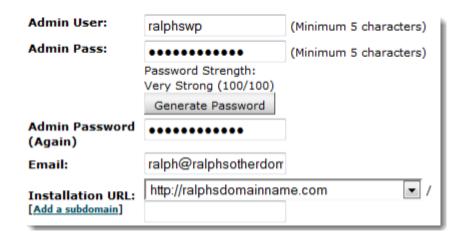




Step 3

Fill out the WordPress installation details as follows:

- Admin User: Enter a username.
- Admin Pass: Enter a password.
- Admin Password (Again): Re-enter the password.
- Email: Enter an email address.
- Installation URL: Select the installation URL, you can also enter a subfolder into the box below.





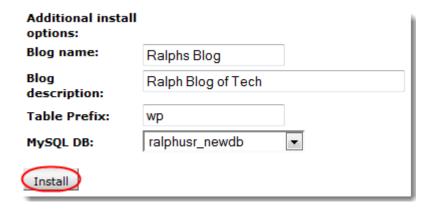
Quick tip: You can also use the **Password Generator** button to get cPanel to generate a strong password for you.

Step 4

In the Additional install options section, fill out the fields as follows:

- Blog name: Enter a name for your blog.
- Blog description: Enter a description for your blog.
- Table Prefix: Enter a prefix for database tables.
- MySQL DB: Select the database you want the software to use.



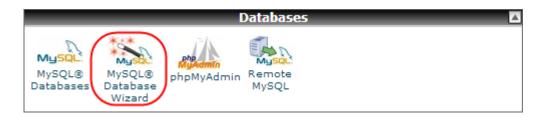


Once finished, click the **Install** button.

Creating a database

Step 1

Scroll down to the *Databases* section and click the **MySQL® Database Wizard** icon.



Step 2

Enter a name for your new database in the field provided and click the **Next Step** button.

Step 1: Create A Database New Database: ralpsdb_newdb ✓ Next Step

Step 3

In the next step you will set up a user for your new database. Fill out the fields given as follows:

- Username: Enter the username for your database user.
- Password: Enter a password for your new user.
- Password (Again): Re-enter the password for your user.



Step 2: Create Database Users:



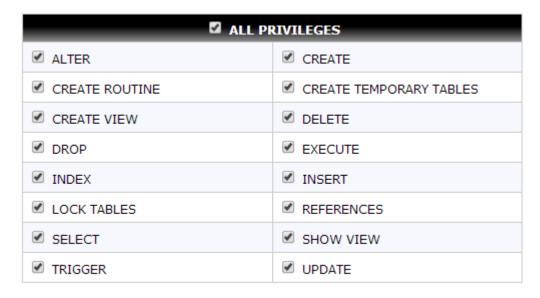
Once finished, click the **Create User** button.



Quick tip: You can also use the **Password Generator** button to get cPanel to generate a strong password for you.

Step 4

Tick all the privileges that you want your new user to have access to on the database you have just created. You can also select *ALL PRIVILEGES* to assign the user all privileges shown.





Once you have selected all the privileges that you want to assign to your new user, click the **Next Step** button.



Step 5

A confirmation screen will appear and also give you three options:

- Click the Add another database link to add another database.
- Click the Add another user for your MySQL database link to add another user.
- Click the **Return Home** link to go back to the main cPanel interface.



Step 4: Complete the task

User "ralph_newuser" was added to the database "ralphsdb_newdb".

Add another database.

Add another user for your MySQL database.

Return Home

Adding additional domains to cPanel

Step 1

Log in to cPanel, scroll down to the *Domains* section and click the **Addon Domains** icon.



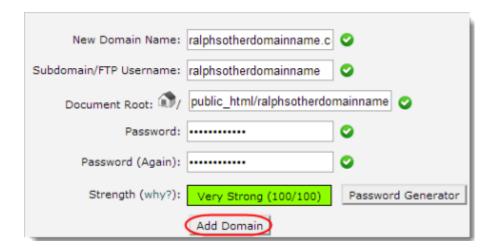
Step 2

Enter the details for the new domain as follows:

- New Domain Name: Enter the domain name that you are adding.
- Subdomain/FTP Username: Enter a username for use with FTP (This will be auto filled).
- **Document Root**: The location for the website will be auto filled.
- Password: Enter a Password for use with FTP.
- Password (Again): Re-enter the password for FTP.

You can also use the **Password Generator** button to have cPanel generate a strong password for you.





A confirmation will appear to state that the domain has been added.

Adding an SSL certificate to a domain name

Generate a CSR request

Step 1

Scroll down to the *Security* section and select the **SSL/TLS Manager** icon.



Step 2

Click the link *Generate*, view or delete SSL certificate signing requests.

Private Keys (KEY)

Generate, view, upload, or delete your private keys.

Certificate Signing Requests (CSR)

Generate, view, or delete SSL certificate signing requests.

Certificates (CRT)

Generate, view, upload, or delete SSL certificates.

Install and Manage SSL for your site (HTTPS)

Manage SSL sites.



Step 3

Fill out the CSR form using the fields provided.

- Key:- Leave this field set at Generate a new 2,048 bit key.
- **Domains:** Enter the domain name that you want to add SSL to.
- **City**:- Enter the City that the domain's registrant details contain.
- State:- Enter the State or County that the domain's registrant details contain.
- **Country**:- Select the domain registrant's country from the dropdown menu.
- **Company**:- Enter your company name.
- **Company Division**:- Enter the division within your company.
- **Email**: Enter the domain registrant's email address.
- Passphrase: Enter a passphrase (optional).
- **Description**: Enter a description (optional).

One finished click the **Generate** button.

Step 4

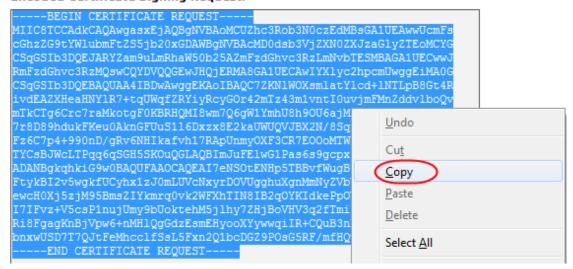
Copy the entire Encoded Certificate Signing Request from the start of the line reading:

-----BEGIN CERTIFICATE REQUEST-----

To the end of the line reading:

----END CERTIFICATE REQUEST-----

Encoded Certificate Signing Request:



Paste this into a *notepad* file for safe keeping.

Step 5



You will need to provide this to your chosen certificate authority (the company you are purchasing your SSL certificate from). They will then provide you with the certificate part to upload to cPanel.



Quick tip: You can purchase SSL certificates through the Fasthosts control panel.

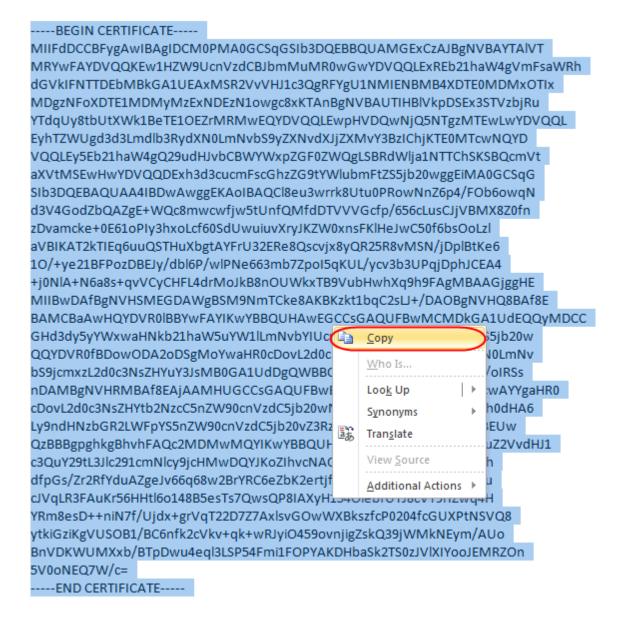
Enter your certificate (CRT)

Step 1

Once you have the gained the CRT from your certificate authority, copy the entire certificate from the start of the line reading:

----BEGIN CERTIFICATE---To the end of the line reading:
----END CERTIFICATE----





Step 2

Scroll down to the Security section and select the SSL/TLS Manager icon.



Step 3

Click the link *Generate*, *view*, *upload or delete SSL certificates*.



Private Keys (KEY)

Generate, view, upload, or delete your private keys.

Certificate Signing Requests (CSR)

Generate, view, or delete SSL certificate signing requests.

Certificates (CRT)

Generate, view, upload, or delete SSL certificates

Install and Manage SSL for your site (HTTPS)

Manage SSL sites.

Step 4

Paste your certificate into the box labelled *Paste your certificate below* and click **Save**Certificate.

Apply the SSL certificate to your domain

Step 1

Scroll down to the Security section and select the SSL/TLS Manager icon.



Step 2

Click the link Manage SSL Sites.

Private Keys (KEY)

Generate, view, upload, or delete your private keys.

Certificate Signing Requests (CSR)

Generate, view, or delete SSL certificate signing requests.

Certificates (CRT)

Generate, view, upload, or delete SSL certificates.

Install and Manage SSL for your site (HTTPS)

Manage SSL sites.



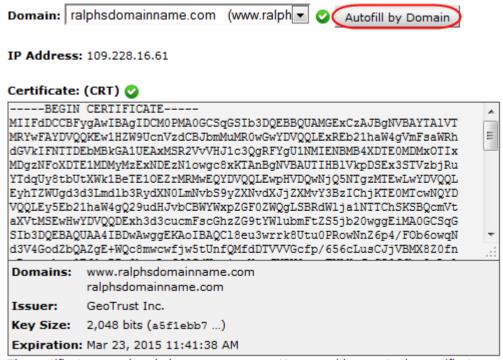
Step 3

Scroll down the page and from the *Domain* drop down menu select the domain name that you want to install the SSL certificate on.



Step 4

Click the button that appears labelled **Autofill by Domain**. This will automatically fill in all the key parts for the domain that were installed in previous steps.

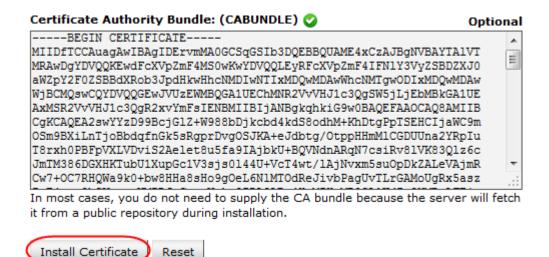


The certificate may already be on your server. You can either paste the certificate here or try to retrieve it for your domain.

Step 5



Scroll to the bottom of the page and click the **Install Certificate** button.



A confirmation screen will appear, click the **OK** button to finish the SSL installation.

Using the cPanel Backup Wizard

Creating a backup

Step 1

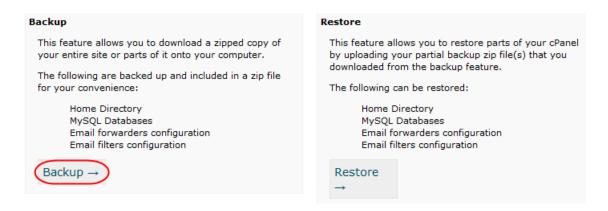
Scroll down to the Files section and click the Backup Wizard icon.



Step 2

Click the **Backup** button under the *Backup* section.

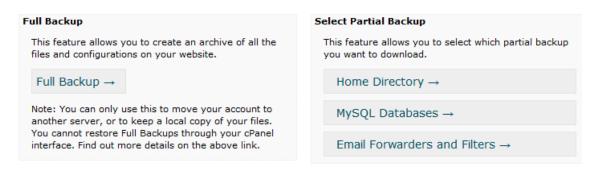




Step 3

Depending on what you want to backup, click the **Full Backup** button to backup everything or select one of the *Partial Backup* options:

- Home Directory Backs up the website files.
- MySQL Databases Backs up the MySQL databases.
- Email Forwarders and Filters Backs up email forwarders and filters.



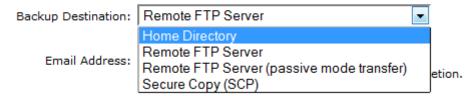
Step 4

Select the backup destination from the *Backup Destination* drop down menu:

- **Home Directory** Your server's own home directory.
- Remote FTP server Backup over FTP to a remote server.
- Remote FTP server (passive mode transfer) Backup using passive FTP to a remote server.
- **Secure Copy** Backup to a remote server using SCP.

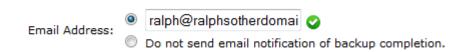


Generate a Full Backup



Step 5

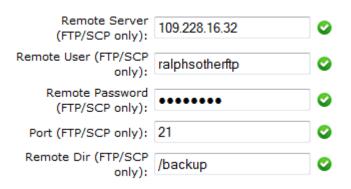
Enter an email address into the field provided. This will be used to send a notification once the backup has been completed. If you do not want to receive a notification, select *Do not send email notification of backup completion*.



Step 6

If you are performing a backup over FTP or SCP to a remote server fill out the below fields, otherwise skip this step.

- Remote Server: Enter the IP address of the remote server.
- Remote User: Enter the FTP or SCP username for the remote server.
- Remote Password: Enter the FTP or SCP password for the remote server.
- **Port**: Enter the FTP port used for connecting to the remote server (Usually 21).
- Remote Dir: Enter the directory on the remote server where you want to store your backup.



Step 7



Click the **Generate Backup** button, a confirmation screen will appear and your backup will start.

Backup Destination: Home Directory Email Address: ○ ralph@ralphsotherdomai ○ Do not send email notification of backup completion. Generate Backup

Restoring a backup

Step 1

Scroll down to the *Files* section and click the **Backup Wizard** icon.



Step 2

Click the **Restore** button under the *Backup* section.





Step 3

Select the restore type that you want to perform from the following list:

- **Home Directory** Select to restore the server's home directory.
- MySQL Databases Select to restore the MySQL database.
- Email Forwarders & Filters Select to restore Email forwarders and filters.



Step 4

Browse and locate your backup file and click **Upload**.



Once the upload is finished, a restore log will appear.

Changing the cPanel Theme

Step 1

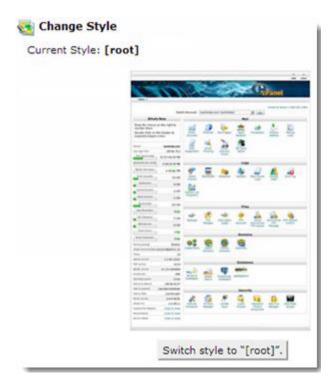
Scroll down to the *Preferences* section and click the **Change Style** icon.



Step 2

Select a theme from the list by clicking the **Switch style to** ... button below it.





A confirmation will appear to state that the style has been changed.

cPanel Administrative Tasks

Edit DNS for a domain within cPanel



Important: In order to be able to edit DNS within cPanel, the *zoneedit* feature must be enabled for the account by an Administrator in WHM.

Edit an existing DNS record

Step 1

Scroll down to the *Domains* section and click on the **Advanced DNS Zone Editor** icon.





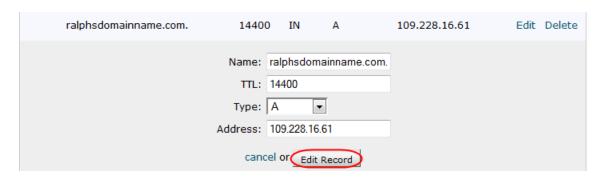
Step 2

Scroll down to the *Zone File Records* table and click the *Edit* link next to the record you want to edit.

| Name | TTL | CLASS | Түре | RECORD | Action |
|---------------------------|-------|-------|------|---------------|-------------|
| ns1.ralphsdomainname.com. | 14400 | IN | Α | 109.228.16.61 | Edit Delete |
| ns2.ralphsdomainname.com. | 14400 | IN | Α | 109.228.18.72 | Edit Delete |
| ralphsdomainname.com. | 14400 | IN | Α | 109.228.16.61 | Edit Delete |

Step 3

A drop down will appear under the record you have chosen to edit. Enter the changes you want to make in the fields provided and click **Edit Record**.



A confirmation that the change has been made will appear.

Create a new DNS record

Step 1

Scroll down to the *Domains* section and click on the **Advanced DNS Zone Editor** icon.



Step 2

Scroll down to the Add a Record section and fill out the fields provided:



- Name: Enter the new record that you want to add.
- TTL: Enter the number in seconds that you want this record to be held in cache.
- **Type:** Select the type of record that you are adding.
- Address: Enter the IP address that you want your record to point to.

Once complete click the **Add Record** button, a notification will appear to confirm that the record has been added.

Delete a DNS record

Step 1

Scroll down to the *Domains* section and click on the **Advanced DNS Zone Editor** icon.



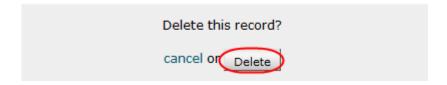
Step 2

Scroll down to the *Zone File Records* table and click *delete* next to the record you want to delete.

| Name | ΠL | CLASS | Түре | Record | Action |
|---------------------------|-------|-------|------|---------------|-------------|
| ns1.ralphsdomainname.com. | 14400 | IN | Α | 109.228.16.61 | Edit Delete |
| ns2.ralphsdomainname.com. | 14400 | IN | Α | 109.228.18.72 | Edit Delete |
| ralphsdomainname.com. | 14400 | IN | Α | 109.228.16.61 | Edit Delete |

Step 3

A dropdown will appear under the record you have chosen to delete. To confirm that you want to delete the record, click the **Delete** button.





Changing an FTP Password

Step 1

Scroll down to the Files section and click the FTP Accounts icon.



Step 2

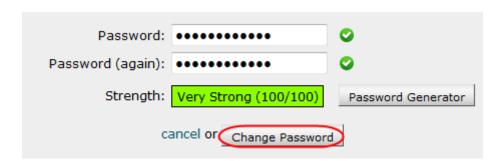
Scroll down to the *FTP Accounts* section and click the *Change Password* link besides the account that you want to change the password for.



Step 3

Fill out the form as follows:

- Password: Enter the new FTP password.
- Password (again): Re-enter the new FTP password.



Once finished, click the **Change Password** button. A confirmation notification will appear.





Quick tip: You can also use the **Password Generator** button to get cPanel to generate a strong password for you.

Changing a cPanel login password

Step 1

Scroll down to the *Preferences* section and click the **Change Password** icon.



Step 2

Enter your old password, followed by your new password as follows:

- Old Password: Enter your existing password.
- New Password: Enter your new password.
- New Password (again): Re-Enter your new password.



Once finished, click the **Change your password now!** button.



Quick tip: You can also use the **Password Generator** button to get cPanel to generate a strong password for you.



Setting up cron jobs in cPanel

Step 1

Scroll down to the Advanced section and click the Cron Jobs icon.



Step 2

Scroll down to the *Add New Cron Job* section. You can either select from the *Common Settings* drop down menus or fill out your own custom values. Fill out the form as follows:

 Common Settings: - This option allows you to select a preset interval for your cron job to run.

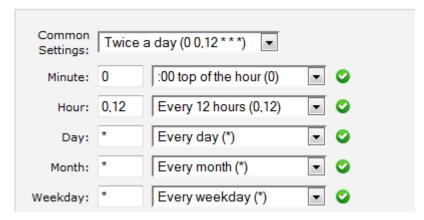
If you have not chosen one of the preset Common Settings, choose from the other options:

- **Minute**:- Either enter a custom value or select a preset value from the *Common Settings* menu.
- **Hour**:- Either enter a custom value or select a preset value from the *Common Settings* menu.
- **Day**:- Either enter a custom value or select a preset value from the *Common Settings* menu.
- **Month**: Either enter a custom value or select a preset value from the *Common Settings* menu.
- Weekday:- Either enter a custom value or select a preset value from the Common Settings menu.

The following example shows a job set up to run twice daily.



Add New Cron Job



Step 3

Enter the command you want to run in the Command field and click Add New Cron Job.



A confirmation will appear to confirm that the job has been added.

Checking disk usage in cPanel

Step 1

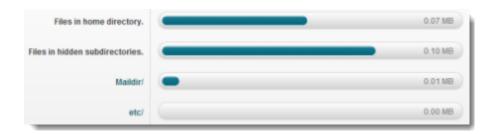
Log in to cPanel, scroll down to the Files section and click the **Disk Space Usage** icon.



Step 2

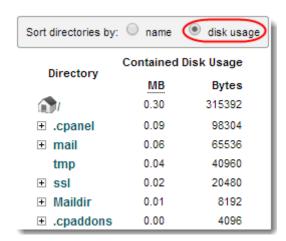
You will see a graph displaying the directories and the disk space each directory uses. The bars represent usage relative to the largest directory.





Step 3

Further down the page you will see a table of directories, if you want to identify which directories are occupying the most space, select the **disk usage** option and the table will be sorted by largest to smallest.



Finding additional help for cPanel

You can access help resources by clicking on the hep icon located in top right corner and choose a help link from the menu.



Direct Links

You can also access WHM and cPanel help resources directly through your web browser using any of the following links:



WHM guides and documentation:

https://documentation.cpanel.net/pages/viewpage.action?pageId=2457745

cPanel guides and documentation:

https://documentation.cpanel.net/display/ALD/cPanel+User+Documentation

cPanel & WHM FAQ:

https://documentation.cpanel.net/display/ALD/WHM+FAQ

cPanel & WHM Forum:

https://forums.cpanel.net

